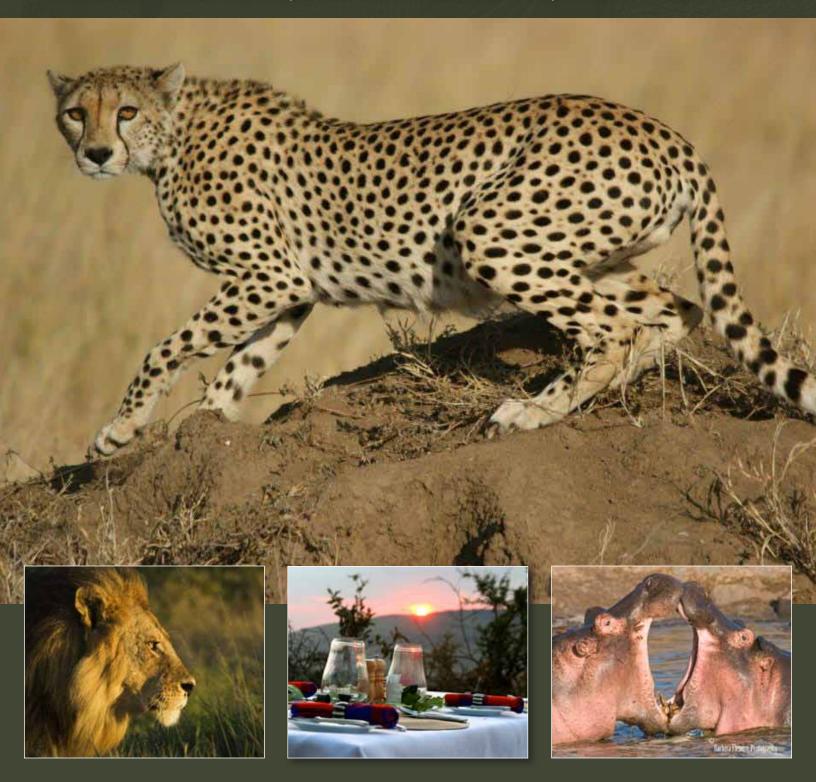
Carleton College

ALUMNI**ADVENTURES**

Explore the world

Tanzania Safari with optional Ethiopia extension

December 9 – 18, 2013 (10 days) with Carleton Professors Nancy Wilkie & Bereket Haileab



Dear Carleton College Alumni and Friends,

Going on safari is a once-in-a-lifetime, "bucket list" type of experience—something that most people probably dream of, but few make happen. Safari, in Kiswahili, simply means "journey," but in English it has come to mean so much more than that: a wildlife-viewing adventure in the African bush—and that is bound to be fascinating and exclusive!

I invite you to **join Carleton faculty leaders Bereket Haileab and Nancy Wilkie in Tanzania** to admire and photograph a variety of fascinating animals and landscapes while enjoying the expertise of **some of the country's best driver-guides** and the convenience and comforts of **some of the best lodges and tented camps available**.

Serengeti National Park is one of the most famous wildlife areas in the world, and its ecosystem is one of the oldest on Earth. The Park's name is derived from the Maasai word *siringet*, which fittingly means "endless plains." It is the largest National Park in Tanzania, with a staggering animal population of about 4 million.

You will take in the Serengeti's northern Loliondo Game Controlled Area, the central and southern Serengeti, and Ngorongoro Conservation Area, giving you the opportunity to **observe an impressive array of exciting wildlife**, including elephant, black rhino, cheetah, giraffe, gazelle, and lion. You will also **experience the beauty and diversity of the terrain**, with its great stretches of treeless plains, acacia-dotted savannas, riverine bush, and forests.

Highlights include:

- Our unhurried pace, with six full days in the Serengeti and two in the remarkable Ngorongoro Crater (an extinct volcanic crater approximately 10 miles wide and teeming with African wildlife), providing more time for viewing wildlife and requiring less time for traveling between sites;
- Two of the most significant sites in paleoanthropology: **Olduvai Gorge** and **Laetoli**;
- Visits to Arusha National Park, featuring a thickly wooded caldera filled with wildlife; and Lake Manyara, an 88-square-mile lake known for lion, elephant, hippo, flamingo, and more;
- Special four-wheel-drive vehicles with large roof hatches and only six participants per seven passenger vehicle, so everyone has a window seat and there is room to move/stow gear (something you will readily appreciate when you see other groups of six or more in minivans);
- Excellent accommodations at comfortable lodges and a luxury mobile tented camp that offers the adventure of camping right near the wildlife: a unique experience that rivals any other;
- An optional, pre-trip extension to cultural highlights of Ethiopia, in and around Addis Ababa, Axum, and Lalibela, also led by Profs.
 Haileab and Wilkie. (See details inside.)

I hope you will seize this opportunity for a classic Tanzania safari. I do suggest that you reserve your space soon, because this trip is <u>limited to 30 participants</u>.

Sincerely,

Frances L. Spangler '91

President, Carleton College Alumni Association

Snances L Spangler

Faculty Leaders



Dr. Nancy Wilkie is a distinguished archaeologist and professor who has lectured on numerous study tours around the world. Nancy is the William H. Laird Professor of Classics, Anthropology, and the Liberal Arts, and Co-Director of the Archaeology Concentration at Carleton College, where she has been on the faculty since 1974. She is also an Honorary President of the Archaeological Institute of America, President of the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield, an organization committed to the protection of cultural property worldwide during armed conflict, and a member of the Managing Committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. In April 2003, the President of the United States appointed her to the Cultural Property Advisory Committee of the U.S. State Department, on which she currently serves. The Committee reviews requests from foreign governments for the protection of their

cultural property and recommends a course of action to the U.S. State Department. Nancy has worked on archaeological projects in Greece, Egypt, and Nepal, and has authored more than 30 articles and co-edited three books on archaeology. She has taught a course on Human Evolution and Prehistory in Carleton's Sociology/Anthropology Department for more than 30 years.



Dr. Bereket Haileab is Professor of Geology at Carleton College, where his main teaching responsibilities are mineralogy, petrology, and geochemistry. Dr. Haileab began his geology career in 1980 and has traveled extensively in Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania. His research career in East Africa began in 1985 with work at the Shungura formation under the supervision of Francis Brown. He also worked in Middle Awash, Ethiopia, and at Gadeb prehistoric sites in central Ethiopia. Dr. Haileab's research interests are in the geology of the Hominid-bearing localities in East Africa, specifically of the Turkana Basin, northern Kenya and Ethiopia. As a geologist, he mapped volcanic ash deposits used to determine the ages of many early hominid fossils throughout Kenya and Ethiopia. In the early 1990s, he served as instructor at the Koobi Fora Paleoanthropology Field School, Kenya. In fall 2008, Dr. Haileab served as the Director

of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest (ACM) program in Tanzania, where he took 22 students to study Ecology and Human Origins. He has been teaching at Carleton since 1993, and has led several field trips in the U.S.

Monday, December 9, 2013: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia OR Home | Arusha, Tanzania

Arrive this evening at Kilimanjaro airport, where you will be met by a local representative who will assist with immigration, baggage, and customs. You will be transferred to our hotel in Arusha, about forty minutes away, where we will have dinner. *Overnight at the African Tulip Hotel*. (D)

Tuesday & Wednesday, December 10 & 11: Arusha | Serengeti-Loliondo

After an early breakfast, transfer to the Arusha airport for our flight to the northern Serengeti/Loliondo Game Controlled Area. Upon arrival, meet our driver-guides and enjoy two days in this unique setting that will allow us to explore off-road in northern Loliondo, take a game drive in the northern Serengeti, participate in a bush walk, take a night drive, and interact with the Maasai tribes of the area. This area is also excellent for birding. Our lodge is located only 2.5 miles from the Serengeti National Park gate, so we will be able to take game drives in both locations, depending upon the input from our driver-guides.

The Serengeti is much larger than just Serengeti National Park. The park is actually just the center of a vast natural ecosystem that includes the Loliondo Game Controlled Area. Loliondo stretches north to south along the eastern border of Serengeti National Park. Although it is part of the Serengeti ecosystem, it is not subject to the same rules and regulations of the National Park system. We benefit from this in that there is more freedom of activity here, such as opportunities for night drives, escorted walking safaris, and more intimate interactions with the Maasai. This magnificent area features breathtaking scenery and a diversity of landscapes, including beautiful mountains, deep gorges, rivers, acacia and riverine woodlands, rolling hills and lush valleys, grassy plains dotted with rocky outcrops (called kopjes), and even a volcano in southern Loliondo. Abundant resident game enjoys the region's many waterholes and river areas, as do seasonal migratory herds that pass through on their annual trek to and from Maasai Mara in Kenya.

On our second morning we will make an early visit to a Maasai village to participate in the waking up of the village and their preparations for taking the cattle and goats for grazing. We may also accompany the village's young boys when they take out the cattle and goats. In the afternoon we will take a game walk or game drive, and do some birding. This evening we will be treated to a night drive. *Overnight at Buffalo Tented Camp (in suite tents) for two nights.* (B,L,D daily)

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, December 12, 13 & 14: Serengeti-Loliondo | Central Serengeti

After an early breakfast, take a game drive en route to the central Serengeti, enjoying the possibility of viewing in the Seronera River Valley leopards and cats of all kinds, as well as some of the herd: in early December, pregnant female wildebeest and dominant males move through the central Serengeti as they make their annual trek to the southern plains, where they calve in mid-January and February. Ours is an excellent time of the year to be in the central Serengeti. Over the course of these three days we will explore vast areas, including the Seronera River Valley and the Moru, Simba, Maasai, and Sametu Kopjes. We will also meet with the Frankfurt Zoological Society to learn about their work on behalf of conservation and research in the Serengeti. *Overnight at Mbuzi Mawe for three nights.* (B,L,D daily)

Sunday, December 15: Central Serengeti | Southern Serengeti

Depart the Central Serengeti this morning on a game drive en route to the southern plains, exploring the areas of Lake Ndutu, Lake Masek, Hidden Valley, and the Gol Kopjes. *Overnight at Ndutu Lodge*. (B,L,D)





Above: Morning on the Serengeti. Below: Crested Cranes. Bottom: African Elephants.





Monday & Tuesday, December 16 & 17: Southern Serengeti | Olduvai Gorge | Ngorongoro Crater | Laetoli | Ngorongoro Crater

We depart the Serengeti this morning and drive to Ngorongoro Crater, stopping along the way to visit Olduvai Gorge, a deep, 8.5 mile long ravine that was the site of Louis and Mary Leakey's famous finds of the mid-20th century. Olduvai is sometimes called "the cradle of mankind" due to the Leakeys' discoveries of a range of paleoanthropological remains (in deposits that spanned two million years) in an excellent state of preservation, including those of hominins (humans and their ancestors). We will tour the site of Olduvai and its small museum before continuing on to the western rim of Ngorongoro Crater, where we check in to our lodge and have an early lunch. After lunch we visit Laetoli, to the west of Ngorongoro Crater. This is the site of the famous "Laetoli footprints," thought to have been made by *Australopithecus afarensis*, an early human, about 3.6 million years ago. The footprint trail (made by two early humans walking through wet volcanic ash), discovered in 1978, is almost 88 feet long and includes impressions of approximately 70 footprints.

Our second day will be spent entirely in Ngorongoro Crater on a game drive (including a picnic lunch on the Crater floor). The Crater is the world's largest unflooded caldera: the entire rim of the old volcano is intact. Although only 100 square miles, the Crater is home to almost 30,000 animals and features six distinct habitats (acacia forest, swamp, short grass, long grass, riverine, and woodland) each of which attracts a variety of animals. The rim of the Crater sits at 7,800 feet in altitude, and the Crater floor drops to 5,000 feet above sea level. *Overnight at Crater Serena Lodge for two nights*. (B,L,D daily)

Wednesday, December 18: Ngorongoro Crater | Lake Manyara | Arusha | Home

Depart Ngorongoro Crater this morning for the three-hour drive back to Arusha, including a game drive in Lake Manyara National Park. In Arusha, we will stop at the Cultural Heritage Center for a hot buffet lunch and an opportunity to shop. Transfer to the *African Tulip Hotel* where we have reserved dayrooms to relax, freshen up, and do any final packing. Gather for a farewell dinner to celebrate the end of our adventure, and then transfer to Kilimanjaro airport for return flights homeward. (B,L,D)



Above, Maasai "Morani" (warriors).
Below, three cheetah brothers.
Bottom, migrating herd in Serengeti National Park.





Ethiopia: Optional Pre-Tour Extension

December 1 – 9, 2013 (9 days)

Sunday, December 1, 2013: Home | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Arrive this evening at Addis Ababa airport. Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to our hotel. *Overnight at the Sheraton Addis Hotel for two nights*.

Monday, December 2: Addis Ababa | Mount Entoto | Addis Ababa

Today is devoted to a city tour, beginning with a drive north to Mount Entoto. In 1881, Emperor Menelik II made his permanent camp there, after remains of an old town were discovered, which Menelik took as a divine and auspicious sign. Addis Ababa, at between 7,545 and 8,202 feet in elevation, is the third highest capital city in the world, and Entoto is even higher. As we drive up the hill there is an appreciable drop in temperature and the air is filled with the scent of the eucalyptus trees that line the road. From the top, there is a panoramic view of the capital and surrounding countryside. Entoto is an important watershed; to the north, water flows to the Blue Nile and on to the Mediterranean, and to the south it flows to the Awash River and east to Djibouti. Entoto was soon abandoned as the capital, being cold, difficult to provision, and with a shortage of wood. Empress Taytu was said to have led the move down to the plain of Finfine and the hot springs at Filwuha in 1889, and to have named the new capital Addis Ababa (New Flower). However, two important structures remain within the old imperial compound on Entoto: the churches of Mariam and the Archangel Raguel. It was in the church of Mariam that Menelik was crowned Emperor of Ethiopia in 1889, and in the small museum in the compound there are various clothes, court and household implements, and weapons from that period. The church of Raguel is unusual in that it is octagonal, rather than round. Leaving the churches we descend to Addis Ababa, stopping at the National Archaeological Museum where we will see exhibits ranging from the 3.5 million-year-old bones of Lucy, through the Axumite and Gondarene periods, to the period of the monarchs Tewodros and Menelik II. Return to our hotel, and gather for dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

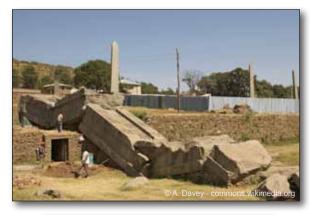
Tuesday, December 3: Addis Ababa | Axum

Transfer to the airport for our flight to Axum. From around 200 B.C. to A.D. 700, Axum was the seat of an empire that extended across the Red Sea to Arabia, traded with India and China, minted its own coinage, had its own alphabet and notational system, constructed great engineering works and dams, and was reckoned by the 4th century Persian historian Mani to be one of the four great powers of the ancient world alongside Persia, China, and Rome. On arrival in Axum we transfer to our hotel, situated on a hill overlooking Axum's stelae, the largest single pieces of stone erected anywhere on the world; it is still not understood how they were transported from the quarry two miles away and erected. After an early lunch we will start our city tour with a visit to the newly constructed Axum Museum, and then ascend the hill to the east to see the castle and tomb of King Kalab, passing Mai Shum (bath of the Queen of Sheba) along the way.

Returning to town we will see the tomb of King Basen, whom Orthodox Ethiopians believe was one of the three Magi who brought presents to the infant Jesus, and then proceed to the grounds of Mariamtsion Church, built on the site of Ethiopia's first church. A chapel within the church compound is believed by Ethiopian Orthodox Christians to house the Ark of the Covenant, the original tablets of Moses on which are inscribed the Ten Commandments. Inside the grounds we will visit the small museum (women are not allowed inside, nor into the 17th century church built by Emperor Fasilides, but the priests usually bring out some crowns of kings for female visitors to see). End the day with a visit to the site known locally as Queen Sheba's Palace, although in fact it is of a later date, the



Below, Part of the North Stelae Park in Axum. Bottom, Axumite drinking glass, Archaeological Museum, Axum.





villa of an Axumite notable from around the 1st century A.D. We will have dinner at our hotel this evening. *Overnight at the Yeha Hotel for three nights.* (B,L,D)

Wednesday & Thursday, December 4 & 5: Axum | Yeha | Axum

Today we will visit any sites that we might have missed yesterday due to time limitations, and then set off for Yeha, Ethiopia's first city, about 34 miles away. Settlement in the area dates back more than 2,800 years, and there are remains of a temple dedicated to Ilmuqeh, the moon god, next to which is the church of Abune Aftse, one of the Nine Saints who helped spread Christianity in Ethiopia. The temple at Yeha is the oldest building in sub-Saharan Africa. Some three miles from Axum, at the top of a hill, we will be confronted with the dramatic mountain backdrop of the "teeth of Adua" – the striking scenery around the area where, in 1896, King Menelik II defeated the invading Italian forces. Return to Axum in late afternoon and have dinner at our hotel. Our second day in Axum is at lesiure to relax or explore Axum independently. (B,L,D on Dec. 4; B on Dec. 5)

Friday, December 6: Axum | Lalibela

Transfer this morning to the airport for our flight to Lalibela. At the end of the 12th and beginning of the 13th centuries, King Lalibela of the Zaghwe dynasty built a series of rock-hewn churches – "New Jerusalem," as he called it – now considered one of the wonders of the world. There are eleven churches in this town that was named after him, with others in the surrounding countryside, all of which are still in use today. It is estimated that the churches took 25 years to construct, and for the Kingdom to have kept a large work force engaged in economically unproductive labor for such a long period indicates that it was very wealthy. After checking in to our hotel, we will tour our first group of churches, return to our hotel for lunch, and continue visiting the other churches in the afternoon. *Overnight at the Jerusalem Hotel for two nights*. (B,L,D)

Saturday, December 7: Lalibela | Ashetun Mariam or Neakuto Leab | Yemrehane Christos | Lalibela

After breakfast we set off on mule (or on foot) to the church of Ashetun Mariam, about 4 hours round-trip. We pass small villages on the way up, and there are wonderful views of the surrounding countryside from the church at the top of the mountain. Those who do not feel up to a hike or a mule ride can go a shorter distance by car to the cave church of Neakuto Leab. After lunch we set off by car (25 miles from Lalibela) and then take a 10-minute hike to the cave church of Yemrehane Christos, built by the king of the same name before the reign of King Lalibela. This beautiful church, the finest example of its kind in Ethiopia, was constructed inside a cave, in Axumite style, with alternating levels of wood and stone. Return to Lalibela in time for dinner. (B,L,D)

Sunday, December 8: Lalibela | Addis Ababa

Transfer to the airport for our return flight to Addis Ababa. The rest of the day is at leisure, perhaps to relax; shop at the Mercato, Africa's biggest market; or visit the Ethiopian Ethnographic Museum. This evening we will gather for a farewell dinner at YOD Abyssinia Cultural Restaurant, with dance performances from Ethiopia's different regions. *Overnight at the Sheraton Addis Hotel*. (B,D)

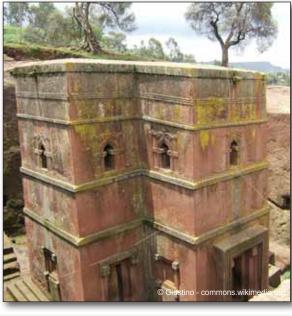
Monday, December 9: Addis Ababa | Arusha, Tanzania

Depart Addis Ababa today en route to Arusha to begin the main safari program. (B,D)



Above, interior of the Temple of the Moon, Yeha. Below (2), Bet Giyorgis church, Lalibela. Bottom, Yemrehane Christos, a church built inside a cave near Lalibela.







What to Expect on Safari

- You should be in good physical condition to participate.
- There are no elevators or escalators in some lodges so you should be prepared for stair access to your room. Tented camps have flush toilets, hot and cold running water and 24 hr electricity.
- There are long international flights and we will spend many hours in 4WD vehicles on game drives.
- Land travel, especially on game drives, will be over very bumpy, dusty roads.
- The weather can be hot during the day, averaging 85F.
- The maximum altitude on this trip is just under 8,000 feet above sea level. On the extension it is slightly greater.

All participants are expected to be physically active, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. You will be required to submit a physician's form indicating that you are in adequate physical condition to participate on this program. Although as a trip participant you are a member of the Flying Doctor Society, which provides emergency medical care to travelers, you should also be aware that medical services or facilities may not be readily available during all or part of your trip. Each participant must be covered by medical insurance that is valid overseas. Brochures for medical insurance will be mailed to participants upon deposit.

Complete pre-departure details will be sent to participants.

Air Arrangements

A suggested flight schedule will be sent to you approximately four months prior to departure. We do not recommend making flight arrangements that are non-changeable or non-refundable prior to that time. Airport transfers are provided in conjunction with the suggested flights on the group arrival and departure dates. If you have any questions about flight arrangements, please contact Cathy King at King Travel at 888-850-9254.

For questions, or to hold your space while you send in your Reservation Form, please contact us:



(800) 811-7244

Email: carleton@studytours.org Website: go.carleton.edu/adventures

PO Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608

Toll Line: (603) 756-4844 Fax: (603) 756-2922

Main Tour Pricing (per person)

Double Occupancy (21 to 30 participants)\$7	7,595
Double Occupancy (15 to 20 participants)\$	7,895
Single Supplement \$	1.195

Optional Ethiopia Extension (per person)

Double Occupancy (15 to 18 participants)	\$4,795
Double Occupancy (10 to 14 participants)	\$5,295
Single Supplement	\$495

PRICES INCLUDE:

- Leadership of Nancy Wilkie & Bereket Haileab with 15+ participants on the main tour and with 10+ on the Ethiopia
- Land transportation and flights within Tanzania (and Ethiopia for extension participants);
- Airport transfers in conjunction with suggested flights on group arrival and departure dates;
- All hotel, lodge and tented camp accommodations;
- All activities listed in the itinerary, including water in the vehicles;
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary with soft drinks and water, cocktails with the farewell dinner;
- Experienced driver-guides in Tanzania;
- Visa fees and VIP service upon arrival;
- All gratuities, porterage fees, meal tips, service charges, and hotel
- Tour Escort on the Ethiopia extension with 10+ paying participants;
- Membership in the Flying Doctor Society;
- Complete pre-departure materials.

NOT INCLUDED: International airfare from home to meet the tour and return; airfare tax and foreign airport taxes; passport fees; excess baggage charges; personal and baggage insurance; all items of a personal nature such as laundry, medical expenses, and room service; beverages (water, coffee and tea are usually provided with meals); any activities not specified in the tour itinerary.

PASSENGER CANCELLATION PENALTIES:

Main Tour only: All requests by Main Tour plus Extension: passengers for cancellations must be All requests by passengers for departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of \$600 per person. Cancellations received between 91 and 120 days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of \$1,500 per person. Cancellations received between 61 and 90 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. There is no refund for cancellations received sixty (60) days or less prior to departure.

received in writing. Cancellations cancellations must be received in received at least 121 days prior to writing. Cancellations received at least 121 days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of \$600 per person. Cancellations received between 91 and 120 days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of \$1,500 per person. There is no refund of the Ethiopia tour cost for cancellations received ninety (90) days or less prior to departure. Cancellations received for the main tour between 61 and 90 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the main tour cost. There is no refund of the main tour cost for cancellations received sixty (60) days or less prior to departure.

NOTE: Rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

You are strongly encouraged to obtain trip cancellation insurance (an application will be sent with confirmation of receipt of your deposit). Itinerary and tour prices are subject to change.

RESERVATION FORM



Tanzania Safari and optional Ethiopia extension December 9 – 18, 2013 (10 days) with Carleton Professors Nancy Wilkie & Bereket Haileab

Name 1:		
(as it appears on passpo	rt)	(Carleton Class of)
Name 2: (as it appears on passpo	rt)	(Carleton Class of)
Address:		
City:		
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Phone (cell)		
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	read the 'What to l	Expect' section and am/are ly on the program.
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F Wal _j	2O. Box 938, 47 Mai pole, NH 03608-093	lumni Adventures
- •	the Terms & Condition	
Signature		Date
Signature		Date

Terms & Conditions

Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason nor to passengers whose required documentation for entry into any country on the itinerary is delayed or denied. RESPONSIBILITY: Carleton College and its agent, Eos (hereinafter "Sponsors"), and the tour operator, and/ or its agents (hereinafter "Operator") assume no liability for failure to provide the services, transportation, lecturers and accommodations referred to in this brochure to the extent that such services and accommodations cannot be supplied due to delays or other causes beyond the control of Operator, which include but are not limited to sickness, epidemics, pandemics, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, and acts of God. In the absence of negligence on the part of Operator, the participant agrees that Operator has no responsibility or liability of any nature whatsoever for damage to or loss of property, or injury to, or death of persons due to any act, omission or negligence of any carrier, hotel, restaurant, bus carrier, tender service, sightseeing company, or any other persons rendering any of the services or ground portions of the itinerary. The participant further waives any claim against Operator and Sponsors for any such damage, loss, injury or death. Operator and Sponsors shall not be responsible for any additional expenses, delays, substitution of equipment, and/or any act or omission whatsoever by the suppliers of such services, their agents, servants and employees, and the participant hereby waives any claim arising there from. Operator and Sponsors reserve the right to decline, accept or retain any participant at any time. Sponsors and Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part, except when trip cancellation, itinerary changes and/or delays are mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Operator and Sponsors are able to recover on the passenger's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, Operator and Sponsors shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. All refunds of passenger payments are the responsibility of Eos and/or the Operator, and the participant agrees that Carleton College bears no financial responsibility for refunding of participant's payments. The passenger contract in use by the carriers concerned (when issued) shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies (such as ship operators and airlines) and the purchaser of this tour and/or passage. Participants are encouraged to purchase airline tickets no sooner than 60 days before the tour begins to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Sponsors and Operator accept no liability for the purchase of non-refundable airline tickets to the tour departure city and return. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. By forwarding of deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers. Itinerary: Sponsors and Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary due to weather conditions, availability of anchorages, political conditions and other factors beyond our control without consulting the participants. Participants have no right to any refund or other considerations in the event of these itinerary changes. Rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices. AS A CONDITION OF ACCEPTANCE, EACH PAR-TICIPANT MUST AGREE TO AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING RELEASE OF LIABILITY: RELEASE: Not withstanding anything set forth above or otherwise contained herein, the signatory clearly understands that the Sponsors are in no way responsible and can assume no liability of any nature whatsoever for the tour and any acts, omissions or negligence by the Operator or by companies and persons with whom the Operator may contract. The signatory has carefully read the list of activities, requirements and conditions as listed in the brochure and application for the tour and is/are aware that the tour and its activities involve the risk of personal injury or death and damage or loss of property. In consideration of the benefits to be derived from participation in the tour, the signatory voluntarily accepts all risk of personal injury or death and property damage or other loss arising from participation on the tour and hereby agrees that he/she and his/ her dependents, heirs, executors and assigns, do release and hold harmless Sponsors and the employees, officers, directors, trustees or representatives of Sponsors, from any and all claims, including claims of negligence, illness, personal injury, death or property damage or loss, however caused, arising from or related to this tour. The signatory has read carefully this agreement, and will abide by the conditions set by Sponsors and the Operator as described in the brochure and in the Terms and Conditions of this and other sections as stated herein or elsewhere published. The signatory affirms that he/she has not received or relied on any oral or written representation of Sponsors as a basis for executing this Release.